



Docket No.: 245902US2



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/723,603  
Applicants: Ayako KOBAYASHI  
Filing Date: November 26, 2003  
For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS THAT CHECKS  
HARDWARE RESOURCES BEFORE ACTIVATING  
HARDWARE-RELATED PROGRAMS  
Group Art Unit: 2625  
Examiner: NGUYEN, ALLEN H.

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**Provisional Election of Species**

Our online credit card payment in the amount of \$0.00 is being made covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

James J. Kulbaski  
Registration No. 36,648

Customer Number

**22850**

(703) 413-3000 (phone)  
(703) 413-2220 (fax)

Derek P. Benke  
Registration No. 56,944